

REMARKS / DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

Claims 1-5, 8-13, 16-17, 20-25, and 27-36 are pending in the application. Claims 6-7, 14-15, 18-19, and 26 are canceled herein, and claims 27-36 are newly added. Claims 10, 16, and 21 are rewritten in independent form, and newly added independent claim 32 includes features commensurate with claim 10.

The claims are also amended for non-statutory reasons: to correct one or more informalities, remove figure label number(s), and/or to replace European-style claim phraseology with American-style claim language. Claims 8-13, 16-17, and 20-25 are not narrowed in their original intended scope and no new matter is added.

The applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging the claim for priority and receipt of certified copies of all the priority document(s).

The Examiner is respectfully requested to state whether the drawings are acceptable.

The Office action rejects claims 16-17 under 35 U.S.C. 101. The claims have been amended to recite an encoder. Reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested.

The Office action rejects claims 1-26 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, for inclusion of the phrase "such as". The claims are amended to delete these phrases. Reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested.

The Office action rejects claims 1-5, 20, and 23 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over Kumaresan et al. ("On Representing Signals Using Only Timing Information", hereinafter Kumaresan), and claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Kumaresan and Office Notice.

Claims 7 and 21 have been determined to be allowable over Kumaresen. Claim 1 is amended to include the features of claim 7. Claim 20 has been amended to be dependent upon claim 21, and claim 23, upon which claim 25 depends, has been amended to include the features of claim 21. Reconsideration of the rejections of claims 1-5, 20, 23, and 25 is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, the applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objection(s) and/or rejection(s) of record, allow all the pending claims, and find the application in condition for allowance. If any points remain in issue that may best be resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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